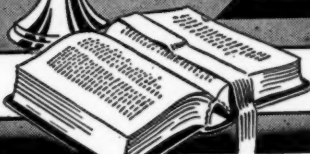


The Church of God



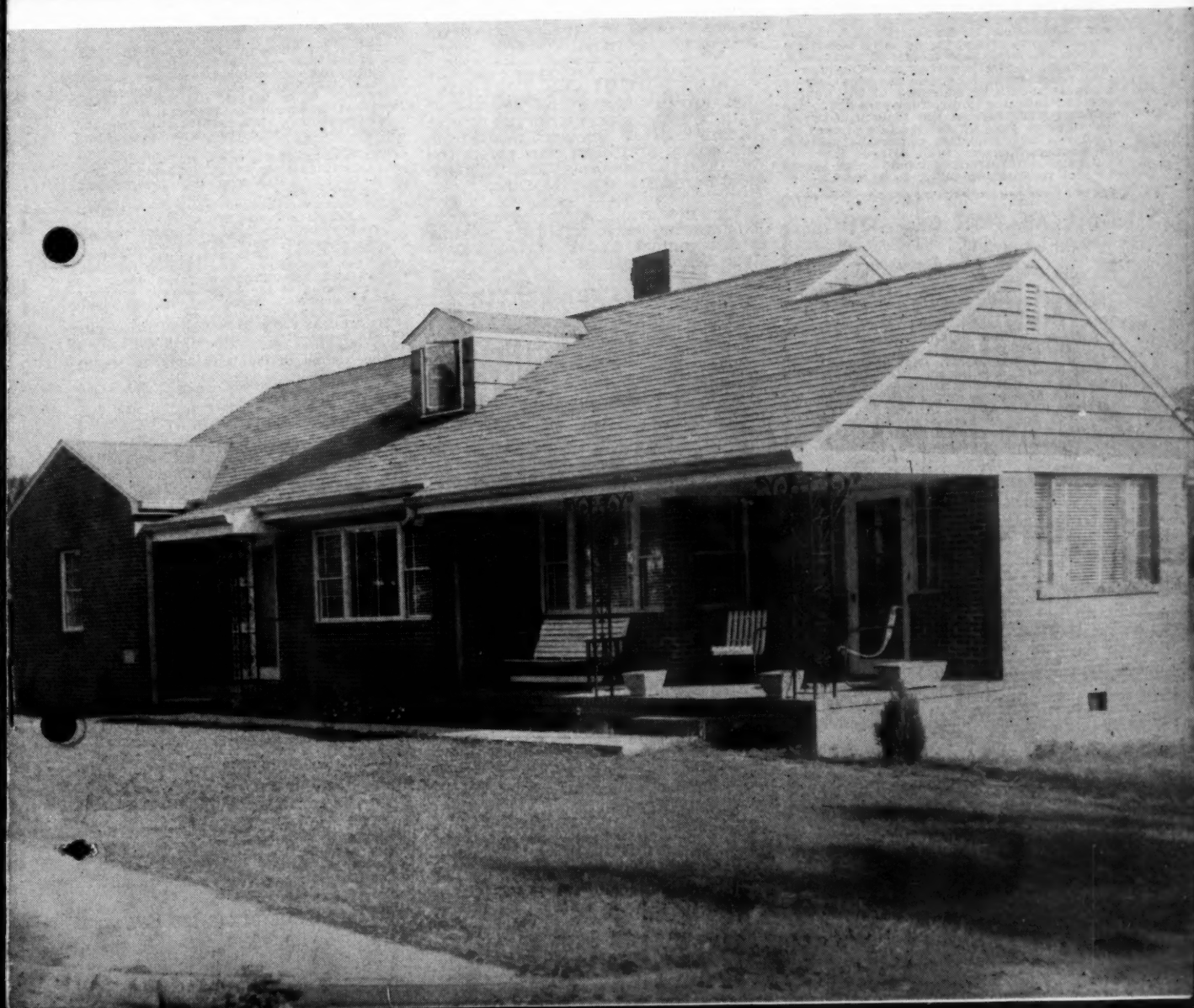
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Address all complaints concerning business to Business Manager, Cecil Bridges.
All materials intended for publication should be sent to Editor-in-Chief, J. D. Bright.

DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism with the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

EAST CHATTANOOGA CHURCH OF GOD PARSONAGE

(Cover Picture)

The church at East Chattanooga has recently erected the beautiful parsonage pictured on the front cover.

It is modern in every respect, with ten rooms and a full-sized basement. It contains three bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, pastor's study and bath downstairs. The second floor is designed as an apartment for the evangelistic parties, with two bedrooms, full-sized bath, and kitchenette and dinette combined. Copper waterpipe was used throughout. The lifetime roof is of asbestos shingles, with cooper valleys. It is electrically heated. The construction was under the direction of T. R. McCuleston, one of the members, who also designed the building. Much hard labor was donated by various members and the pastor. The parsonage is valued at about \$20,000, or better, and will stand as a monument for many years to the faithful people of East Chattanooga and their former pastor, James A. Cross, who is now state overseer of Pennsylvania.

NOTICES

If anyone knows the address of Janette Rose, please write me or give her my address. The last I heard from her was in April, 1949, just before the big flood in Missouri.—Violet Oplinger, 2840 Berne St., Akron 12, Ohio.

I am now available for revivals. Anyone desiring me to conduct a meeting please contact me.—E. H. Long, Dayton, Tenn. Phone 38.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

My son, who is in service, to be saved and his life to be spared.—Mrs. R. M. Caldwell, Brandywine, Md.

My son to come out of the Korean battlefield safely.—Mrs. W. D. Mills, Princeton, W. Va.

Me to be completely healed of asthma.—Mamie R. Bowers, Williamston, N. C.

My body and eyes to be healed.—Mrs. A. H. Gotstone, Homerville, Ga.

My brothers and son to quit drinking and be saved.—Mrs. L. Smith, Suggsville, Ala.

A sister, Mrs. C. M. McCumbers.—L. M. Wilcox, Winter Haven, Fla.

Our family; the complete healing of my body.—Mrs. Bernice Bremlow, Donaldsonville, Ga.

My husband to be saved; me and my children.—Bertie Lee Banner, Oak Grove, La.

My husband, my daughter-in-law, and me to be healed.—Mrs. Dora Graham, Bald Knob, Ark.

The complete healing of my body.—Carl Rice, Canton, Ohio.

My granddaughter to be healed of polio of the brain.—Mrs. Sarah Allen, Box 98, Miamisburg, Ohio.

Two souls to be saved; my body.—A Sister. Me and my husband; our needs to be supplied.—Mrs. James Burnett, Ft. Meade, Fla.

Loyal Ray Bailey to be healed; his father.—J. T. Browning, Letcher, Ky.

Me to get back to the Lord.—Mrs. Etta Piper, Spring Gap, Md.

Me to be healed.—Reta Fordham.

A little girl who has leukemia; the healing of my body; me to be an overcomer.—Ollie May Johann, West Point, Miss.

My husband to be healed.—Mrs. Newton Smith, Fitzgerald, Ga.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. M. D. Hen-son, Cleveland, Miss.

My mother to be healed; my sons.—Mrs. M. E. Vise, Heflin, Ala.

My son to receive the Holy Ghost.—A reader, Booneville, Miss.

Me.—Miss Lizzie Parnell, Benson, N. C.
Mrs. Beulah Peebles, Dearing, Ga., to be healed. All letters and testimonies will be appreciated.—Mrs. Rufus Arrington, Keysville, Ga.

The redemption of my soul and the healing of my body. I should appreciate letters of encouragement and cheer.—Mrs. Virginia Merchant, Flora, Miss.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. H. K. Perry, Gadsden, Ala.

God to give me strength to preach His gospel; God to come to the rescue of some unsaved people.—Mrs. Lannie Wiggins, Colquitt, Ga.

My husband to be saved; me.—A member. My granddaughter.—Mrs. J. W. Webb, Colte-wah, Tenn.

The healing of my body.—Ruby Barnes, Rutherfordton, N. C.

A very special unspoken request.—A friend Madison, S. C.

Warren B. Williams to be healed of heart trouble.—Mrs. Winston Hargis, Chesapeake, W. Va.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. Leona Tharp. My husband to be saved and filled with the Holy Ghost; my loved ones to be saved.—Mrs. Edward D. Newman, Adrian, Ga.

God to heal my baby.—Jack Kitchen, New Haven, W. Va.

My daughter to be healed of a severe kidney trouble; my unsaved children.—Mrs. Mary Cotton, Gadsden, Ala.

My husband to be healed; my hand to be healed; my home.—Mrs. Ethel Roberts, Toledo, Ohio.

The healing of my body; my nephew to be saved; my unsaved sister.—Florence Easter, Mt. Airy, N. C.

Me and my husband to be saved; the healing of my body.—A reader, Augusta, Ga.

My son to be healed of cancer.—Mrs. Roberta McNair, Abbeville, S. C.

My wife to be healed; the healing of my body.—W. A. Campbell, Cleveland, S. C.

My daughter's home; God to heal my mother; a boy to be saved.—Mrs. Dorme, Pratt, Kans.

The healing of my body; me to be sanctified and filled with the Holy Ghost; my children to be saved.—Mrs. Ora Lee Tillman, Jacksonville, Fla.

The complete healing of my body.—Mrs. W. A. Priest, Mosinee, Wisc.

God to touch my body and strengthen me.—Mrs. C. L. McCloskey, Cordova, Ala.

My son to be saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost, and released from the Army.—Mrs. Lena Brandon, Sarah, Miss.

The healing of my body.—Myrtle Anthony. A very urgent request.—J. H. McDowell, Nettleton, Ark.

My husband's eyes to be healed; the healing of my body.—Mrs. Hattie Stubblefield, Kennard, Texas.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. H. Pugett, Nolan, W. Va.

The healing of my body.—Mrs. Thannie Garrett, Nettleton, Ark.

GOD WRITES

A. E. FISH

God said He would put and would write
His law
In the hearts and the minds of men.
Looking at Christ on the cross men saw
God write with an infinite pen.

His first law of life, yes, God's law of love,
Was there manifested so clear,
When the Lamb of God came down from
above
The sins of the whole world to bear.

Because He first loved us, do we love Him.
This love at the cross was made known.
His love for man and His hatred for sin
Through the blood of the Christ was shown.

On a murderer's cross between two thieves,
Accused of a blasphemous lie,
For the sins of the world, His soul receives
Our guilt, and for this He must die.

God's love for the sinner and hatred for sin,
Revealed through the death of His Son.
His great law of life is written within
Our hearts, and with God we are one.

—Selected.

Our opinion of people depends less upon
what we see in them, than upon what they
make us see in ourselves.—Sarah Grand.

Editorials...

WHO WOULD NOT AGREE?

Recently, in the 127th Annual Conference of the Holston Methodist Church, which convened in Knoxville, Tenn., Bishop Marvin A. Franklin said, "The church is one great bulwark standing between the threat of communism and human welfare." He also said that the only formidable foe against threatening communism, which is marching across the earth today, is "democracy practiced and Christianity lived."

There certainly is nothing questionable about this profound statement. Not only is the statement profound, but challenging, challenging to the Methodist Church, yes, and to all Christianity, and, may I say further, to political parties. After all, is it not true that we cannot have a good democracy without it having in it true Christian principles? Therefore, to be a good Democrat or Republican, a person must of all necessity be a Christian. The motto, "Make the world safe for Democracy," should be, "Make the world safe for Christian Democracy," for without Christian principles Democracy can become as corrupt as any other political party in the world. "In God we trust" should not only be on our money, but stamped indelibly upon our hearts as well. The United States is known as a Christian nation—Christian America. Therefore, every citizen, and certainly every member of the church, is challenged to live a Christlike life; it is only in this way that we can be the salt of the earth, which seems to be in such a corrupt and perishing condition and needs our savoury help.

We should remember, also, that the Lord Jesus said we "are the light of the world," and certainly, we who are Christians know that no nation can be so dark as the nation that rejects God and Christianity. Therefore, although nations are uniting to defend the democratic way of life, and preserve the ways of freedom for the freedom-loving people of the earth, it should be our hearts' prayer to God that we shall do this in a Christian manner. We should further pray that the black scourge of war will soon be passed, and that the Christian flag will be unfurled beside every flag throughout the whole world.

EX-BURGLAR HAS NEW FACE

On September 16, the Associated Press reported that a former burglar had been rehabilitated by plastic surgery, an operation which gave him a new face. The man, who is now thirty-one, began his career of burglary when he was sixteen, which terminated about two years ago, after having served several terms in prison and having broken several paroles. In 1948, he appeared in Common Pleas court, before Judge Frank J. Merrick, charged with breaking into a confec-

tionery. He stated that his reason for breaking into the confectionery was to obtain money for plastic face surgery. The reason he wanted plastic surgery performed on his face was due to the fact that he was so ugly no one would have anything to do with him. The judge put him on probation and arranged for the surgery at St. John's Hospital, free of charge. After that, the man got a job and stayed on the right track. Recently, Judge Merrick granted to him the privilege of going to Miami, Fla., to meet a girl he had come to know through an international pen club. The girl's home is in Cuba, and the man has obtained permission from the judge to go there and marry her.

Certainly, one can rejoice with this man over his rehabilitation through plastic surgery and the kind assistance of the judge. Yet, at the same time, this case gives rise to the thought that there are thousands who were just as unfortunate as this man who were not fortunate enough to secure plastic surgery for their faces, but were fortunate in obtaining help from the Lord Jesus who beautified their "countenances with salvation."

FREEDOM SCROLLS

It appears that Red Russia is undertaking a new kind of propaganda. Of course, she has been practicing propaganda methods for a long time and should be an expert by now. Russia knows that one of the greatest things in our lives as Americans is freedom. We love freedom with all of our hearts and will pay a tremendous price to maintain it.

In order to counteract Russia's most recent propaganda methods of slandering and misrepresenting our American way of life, there has come into existence, right out of the very souls of freedom-loving Americans, the Freedom Scrolls Campaign. This Freedom Scrolls Campaign is spreading like fire in a sage field on the prairies, and thousands of signatures are going down on it by the day. This is to be a national answer to socialistic Russia who hates the freedom of the Americans. This is to tell her in definite terms that we are not only Americans, but we love the American way of life and will do our utmost to defend it and the attack upon it elsewhere. It is a further notice to the Communists that we are not only determined to protect this freedom for ourselves, but to assure, as far as our means and manpower will afford it, this freedom for other peoples of the earth who loathe, not the people, but communism, as much as we do.

The Freedom Scrolls Campaign and all who are affixing their signatures to it, as far as I can determine, are actuated by the same spirit that filled the heart and soul of Patrick Henry in that great crisis of American crises, when he said, "Give me liberty or give me death." We remember the words of the Lord Jesus when He said, "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." We, as Americans, love truth; we hate lies. But it has been proved by word, deed,

and action that Russia, in more instances than one, has loved a lie more than the truth. Eighty-one million Americans have their names on Christian church rolls, testifying to the fact that they have been set free through the sacrificial death and suffering of the Lord Jesus Christ, and for that freedom, as well as for the national freedom that our forebearers provided for us, we shall pray, live, strive, and sacrifice.

NINE REASONS FOR GOING TO CHURCH

1. A churchless community, where men have abandoned, scoffed at, or ignored their religious needs, is a community on the rapid downgrade.
2. Church work and church attendance mean the cultivation of the habit of feeling some responsibility for others.
3. There are enough holidays for most of us. Therefore, on Sundays go to church.
4. Yes, I know all the excuses. I know that one can worship the Creator in a grove of trees, or by a running brook, or in one's own home, just as well as in a church. But I also know as a matter of cold fact that the average man does not thus worship.
5. One may not hear a good sermon at church. One will hear a sermon by a good man who, with his good wife, is engaged all week in making hard lives a little easier.
6. One will listen to and take part in reading some beautiful passages from the Bible. If a person is not familiar with the Bible, he has suffered a loss.
7. One will take part in singing some good hymns.
8. One will meet and nod or speak to good, quiet neighbors. He will come away feeling a little more charitable toward all the world, even toward those excessively foolish young men who regard church-going as a soft performance.
9. I advocate a man's joining in church work for the sake of showing his faith by his works.

WANT TO TEST YOUR CHRISTIAN MANHOOD? IF SO, TRY PRACTICING THE FOLLOWING

Let It Pass

- Be not swift to take offense; Let it pass.
- Anger is a foe to sense; Let it pass.
- Brood not darkly o'er a wrong Which will disappear ere long; Rather, sing this cheery song Let it pass. Let it pass.
- Bid your anger to depart; Let it pass.
- Lay these homely words to heart, Let it pass.
- Follow not the giddy throng; Better to be wronged than wrong; Therefore sing this cheery song, Let it pass. Let it pass.

—Author Not Known.

(Continued on page 15)

Three Essentials to a Successful Ministry

By T. W. GODWIN, CHAIRMAN OF EDITORIAL AND PUBLICATIONS BOARD

Proverbs 4:23, *Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life.*

When we think in terms of essentials to the ministry, it is only natural that we consider those things which pertain to the real character of a thing or condition; that which is most important, necessary, pure, and indispensable. All such considerations must have their beginning in the heart, and must be perpetually fostered by the heart. Jesus said, "Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh," and, of course, you would not debate with me when I say every preacher speaks the things he has in his heart. Therefore, it seems to me that the minister, more than anyone else, should strive to keep his heart pure, for in so doing he will keep his message pure. Under such conditions the people need no special spirit of prophecy to predict the results.

Among the several essentials necessary to a successful ministry, we should like to mention three that are very outstanding. The first is A DEFINITE CONSCIOUSNESS OF GOD. What we mean by this, is the minister must have precise, exact knowledge that is gained directly from the presence and communication with and of God. The successful minister must have a personal experience with God, and not depend on what others say or do. The apostle Paul once said that he lived in all good conscience. Again, he said, "My conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost." Paul was definitely conscious of the presence of the Lord on the Damascus road, in the Philippian jail, the fourteen-day storm at sea, the shipwreck on the Island of Melita, and especially his ministry in Rome. Paul was dependent on NO MAN, but trusted God because he knew God and had a personal experience with Him, and I challenge the world today to name the man who was more successful in the ministry than was Paul.

Speaking of ministers having a personal experience with God and being successful in their efforts, the apostle Peter was no exception. I certainly feel safe in saying he had a definite consciousness of God, for when he was approached on the subject of who Jesus was, he stated in no uncertain terms that, as far as he was personally concerned, Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the living God, and, of course, Jesus verified his statement when He pronounced a blessing upon him, and said, "Flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in

heaven." Peter disregarded everything that others had said; it was not in line with the true gospel and meant nothing to him. Without fear or favor he came out with his own conviction, on the authority of what his personal experience with the Lord had taught him. I dare the devil to say that Peter was a failure. I contend that he was one of the most successful ministers of whom we have any record. Yes, he was the man who received three thousand souls into their number in one day. Brother, that's a good day's work.

May God help each of us to keep our hearts with all diligence; then, naturally, our messages will be pure, wholesome, and effective. Soul winners, we shall lead the world to God.

Well, here's another essential that must not be overlooked, but thoroughly considered, that is A DEFINITE FORWARD-LOOKING FAITH, yes, onward in advance, early in season, faith in the future, trusting God's reasons where our reasons don't reach.

A fellow minister of mine was asked a few years ago, "How does the future look to you?" He answered, "The future to me looks just as bright as God's promises." Yes, Brother Minister, I know that sometimes things around us look dark, but Jesus said look up, so let us lift our stern gaze above the perils that lie at our feet. In so doing, Columbus crossed the ocean, and Washington the Delaware. No doubt, in Isaiah's day there were times when things looked discouraging, but one day, with his keen eye of faith, he looked out through the telescope of time and, seven hundred and fifty years in the future, he saw Jesus, and he left his prophecies on record as to just what He would be. This record is found in Isaiah 9:6. This great prophet of God has his name inscribed on the pages of history because he had a definite forward-looking faith. Let us take a look into the antediluvian world and see that great preacher of righteousness as he worked away on the ark. Yes, Noah had been informed that the world would be destroyed with water, and he set about his work by faith. He didn't know what day or hour, but he continued his message until the flood came. Well, it must have been about a hundred years, but time had no advantage of Noah, because he had a definite forward-looking faith; therefore, he accomplished his task.

Abraham was no exception, when it came to faith in the future, because history teaches us that Abraham didn't just see little Isaac as a human body changed into a small bit of



Rev. T. W. Godwin

ashes, but he saw God raising his child up from the ashes and making him live again.

Some ministers can see only a little ten-by-twenty tin-covered shack down on some mud street, with twenty-five or thirty children in Sunday School. That's all some have seen for twenty-five years, and that's all the progress some have made in twenty-five years. On the other hand, some have seen big, brick, plastered, slate-covered churches, with large Sunday School plants, costing as much as two hundred thousand dollars, with five hundred to one thousand in Sunday School, and up to seven and eight hundred in membership. Well, that's what I call a definite forward-looking faith. That's it, Brother; if I don't have a "dab," that's it.

What we ministers need to do is work as if Jesus were never coming again, preach as if that were the last sermon, and live as if He were coming the next minute. Thank God for men who have unadulterated, untarnished faith in the future; faith that looks beyond the shadows, beyond the storm clouds, yes, beyond the stars and the blue, and into God's eternal GLORY where such faith fades into eternal life. Men with such faith preach the gospel uncompromisingly and without apology. Not everyone likes straight preaching. Jesus said some men like for the preacher to tickle their ears. But Paul said preach the Word, and all those who comply and stay on the job will never have regret.

Last but not least, a successful minister must have A DEFINITE SACRIFICIAL SPIRIT. To sacrifice means to destroy or give up for the sake of other persons or objects. If I understand the above definition, selfishness and personal concern must go. There are, perhaps, several kinds of ministers, but there are two that are outstanding in my mind now; that is the successful and the unsuccessful.

(Continued on page 15)

LEE COLLEGE

IT HAS HAPPENED

By REV. R. P. JOHNSON, TEACHER,
LEE COLLEGE

Probably no one, however some might have, imagined it; but, if so, it was by a wild stretch of their imagination. Surely, those who best understand the divers problems, the solution to which this school is supposed to either have or find the answer; who also know the abilities and limitations of a certain person, would hardly have ventured to predict such a thing would be either wise or have the remotest possibility of becoming a reality. But, matters not how unthinkable it may have been, or whether it contributed even the least bit of assistance toward helping the school provide or find the answer to that which is expected of it, the thing really came to pass; it is now a definite fact. It is not only a definite, undeniable something, but to one party its very reality carries with it a seriousness and a responsibility so great as to cause him to wonder why; to look around, up, and sometimes down, and also sigh.

Now, in fairness to those who read and to those who may hear about it, I feel that we should neither proceed any further nor take more space without first letting them know that even though the seriousness of its nature makes one tremble, yet being asked to have even a little part in so great a work is no small honor. So, the something, with whatever goes with it, had its beginning September 11, 1950, in Room 104 of the Library Building. There, a fine group of God-fearing, truth-loving young men assembled for the purpose of taking a course called Pastoral Theology. I stood before them as their instructor. That was it. From the first scripture reading and first warm prayer, on throughout the month and up to this date, the spirit of good will, fellowship, cooperation, reasonable study, with a desire to know and do right, has prevailed in our class (and for that matter throughout the institution). We are a happy group of workers together with God, and by His help and grace we have and shall continue to make progress.

WHY I CAME TO LEE COLLEGE

I came to Lee College because I needed more education and Christian training. The main factor that prompted me in attending school was that I was married and had no special vocation as my future aim.

There is more than one reason why



Rev. R. P. Johnson

I came to Lee College rather than some other school. I, being a Christian, wanted the environments of a Christian school such as Lee College has. I chose Lee College because of its Christian teachers, also. Christian teachers are more interested in the success of students than are other teachers who are not Christians.

Another good reason why I came to Lee is because it is owned and operated by the Church of God. This, of course, makes me feel more at home.

There are many good, sound reasons why I am a student of Lee College, but all of these are based upon one factor that cannot be overlooked, because without it, it would have been impossible, as far as I know, to be in school today. That factor is that Uncle Sam was kind enough and interested enough to send me, with all expenses paid. I appreciate from the depths of my heart what the Government of

the United States has done and will do for all veterans.

Perhaps there are other reasons for my attending Lee College, but I believe the most important ones have been mentioned. I do know that since my visit here as a student I have prospered greatly in many ways. I look forward with great anticipation for this coming year, when I shall enter junior college.

I do believe that my coming to Lee College is the will of the Lord. I believe this is a preparation for future service. I also know, without doubt, that if I never receive a definite call to service for the Lord, education will not be a waste of time, but a gain.

Before I started to school at Lee, I had intended to take all religious subjects, but my intentions were changed greatly after realizing I could receive my high-school and junior-college diplomas. This change for the best will be far more profitable for me and also for the Lord.

I am glad I chose Lee College as the school for my educational and religious training, and wish that all who could, would enroll in this wonderful Christian institution.—Joshua Thomas, West Virginia.

They Say . . .

GROWING GODLINESS

In the past 20 years Americans turned to the church as never before in history. Church membership rose sharply from 50 million in 1929 to nearly 82 million in 1949. The years were marked by depression, disillusion, World War II and the atom bomb.

It is proof, then, that man—when his security is shaken, when his materialistic philosophy cracks beneath him, when his faith in science crumbles—invariably turns to religion.

That's the analysis of the Christian Herald, non-denominational Protestant monthly magazine. The Herald has convincing statistics to prove its point in its annual survey, in its current issue.

Search. The increase, said managing Editor Clarence W. Hall, was not a wholesale return to religion, as in the period 1880 to 1900, when great revivals swept the land. But the figures indicate "a large and definite seeking . . . for a source of security and confidence and serenity not to be found in secularity."

Hall believes such a resurgence, though not spectacular, is "one of the most hopeful auguries that we as a people are getting back to an even keel."

Some survey highlights: Churches made a total net gain of 2,426,723 members in 1949.

The ratio of the three faiths remained almost the same: Protestant, 59%; Catholic, 33%; Jewish, 6%; all others, 2%.

U. S. Judaism hit the 5 million mark for the first time. Methodists are still the strongest Protestant denomination with 8,792,569 members. Second place again goes to Southern Baptists, the fastest growing group, with 6,761,265.

WHAT IS CHRISTIANITY?

In the home it is kindness.
In business it is honesty.
In society it is courtesy.
In work it is fairness.
Toward the unfortunate it is pity.
Toward the weak it is help.
Toward the wicked it is resistance.
Toward the strong it is trust.
Toward the fortunate it is congratulations.
Toward the penitent it is forgiveness.
Toward God it is reverence and love.
—Selected.

SEED FOR THOUGHT

Thought is of value only by deeds which are accomplished as a result of constructive

thinking. One may spend much time in thinking out ways and means of doing big things, but he produces nothing unless he puts into effect practical plans that he has mentally conceived.

Where to begin? Here, now, at your age. This is the only way to get anything done. If you continue to put off trying until tomorrow, next month, next year, you will accomplish little. Take hold, put your best effort into your work, and you will be surprised at the results you will achieve.

The famous statement of Grant, "I propose to fight it out on this line if it takes me all summer," is one that may well be put in the forefront of one's mind to stir up his determination to succeed in any endeavor. There are two factors in winning—start and keep going until you reach the goal.

You are a despicable coward if you are afraid to do what you know to be right.

The person who is not farther ahead than he was this time last year occupies a stagnant pool.—From Mississippi Messenger.

THOUGHTS FOR THE MINISTRY

A preacher should never be a mere pipe, tapping other men's reservoirs and draining off the distilled essence of their thinking, but should have within himself an original spring of ideas ever welling up and brimming over in perennial fulness and sparkling freshness. Such a preacher will never run dry, and his sermons will never grow stale.

A minister returns from all his studies as a bee from the many flowers which it has rifled of their sweets, laden with golden treasure, from which it makes its own honey.

THE SPIRIT WORLD

This book treats of the "Powers of Good and Evil," the "Underworld," "Satan," "Demonism," the "Intermediate State," "Heaven and Hell," etc. It contains 19 chapters, 160 pages (5½x8 inches), and is illustrated with 27 pictures and 17 charts. Cloth bound. Price \$1.75.

CHURCH OF GOD PUBLISHING HOUSE
Montgomery Ave., Cleveland, Tennessee

Broken Vessels for God

By AURORA ANDERSON, CHRISTINE, N. DAK.

Psalm 51:17, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise."

Our text deals with humility; without it there is no possible chance of contacting our blessed Lord. He walked this old sinful earth in all humility as a pattern for us. We find no place of fellowship with Jesus without first having repented. Genuine heartfelt repentance immediately touches the heartstrings of God, and He reaches down His great hand of forgiveness, applies Jesus' precious blood to that soul, and the heavenly connection is made. Praise God! I remember well the night I made the connection; the heavenly telephone immediately was installed without poles or lines. No storm has ever been able to destroy this telephone.

We recall the prodigal son, with his independent proud heart, wanting to shift for himself. How it grieved the father's heart, but away he went. All connection with the father and home was broken. He lived in luxury and sin, with a gleeful heart, until his portion was spent. That left him friendless—no money, no friends in the world. He was finally forced to feed swine, and even desired to fill his belly with the husks the swine refused to eat. The hogs lived on a higher standard than the poor prodigal son. In this predicament he came to himself; woke up as out of a horrible dream; thought of home, father, friends, and plenty of food. But he wondered if he was any more worthy of such a home. He felt so small and unworthy. It was hard on his independent pride, too. But his spirit broke; his heart was crushed—he was willing to go and ask to be a servant, no longer worthy to be a son. In all humility he wends his way homeward. The father, who had been longing and waiting for the return of his son, ran to meet him as he beheld him afar off. The broken-hearted son mourned and sobbed in repentance, asking for the lowest place, that of a servant. The glad-hearted father, ignoring the son's plea, called for a great feast at this glorious home-coming, and made the broken-hearted son the guest of honor.

In James 4:6 we read, "God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace to the humble." We are of no value to the Lord until we are definitely broken. The Lord often has to allow hard blows to come our way, in order to crush us and melt us down, so He can bestow the best on us.

Of what have we to boast? None of us appreciate pride in another, and let us bear in mind how utterly repulsive it is to Almighty God.

Psalm 34:18, "The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart, and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit." Have you experienced that?

Let us consider the five loaves and the two fishes. They could never have

satisfied 5,000 men, besides women and children, if they had not first been broken in the Lord's hands. The lad willingly gave all, and the Lord willingly blessed; therefore, it fed the multitude.

Jesus is our Living Bread, who was broken for you and me. Are you feeding on it daily? There is a sufficiency for every hungry soul, because He was willing to be broken to satisfy every hungry heart.

"Lord, evermore give us this bread," John 6:34. Now I am thinking of Gideon's pitchers. A torch was placed in each one's pitcher. At a command, everyone's pitcher was broken, which caused the light to shine forth, putting the enemy to flight. Had the pitchers not been broken the lights would not have shone forth. How about our lights? I fear they are often hid because we refuse to be broken.

Mary and her box of ointment is a well-known story to every Bible reader. Humbly, this woman bowed at Jesus' feet, breaking this box of costly oint-

ment upon them because she loved Him, not because she was forced to do so. The fragrant odor filled the room. Have you, my dear friend, bestowed your costliest on the Lord? Only as it is done in all humility will it fill the room with its sweet perfume from heaven. All too often, when something is given there is too much noising it abroad; it wants to be seen of man, and praised. When we give our all to Him in all humility, "the humble shall hear thereof and be glad."

Romans 12:1, "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." A living sacrifice—newly slain every day—as the sacrifices of old; not an old, cold, past-experienced sacrifice, but newly slain today—limp, submissive in His hands. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise. Let us be broken vessels for God. There are too many hard hearts. The world is hungry for the real thing. Do you have it?

Let us lead them back home, feed them with bread from heaven, light their path, and give them the perfume of heaven. We can only do so as we live Romans 12:1.

TESTIMONIES

MONTICELLO, Fla.—I thank and praise God for healing me of arthritis. I thank Him for saving, sanctifying, and baptizing me with the Holy Ghost, and that I am a member of the Church of God.—Mrs. Ruth Beasley.

ADAMSVILLE, Ala.—I thank the Lord first of all for saving, sanctifying, and giving me the Holy Ghost. I seemed to be slipping into the flames of hell when God so marvelously lifted me up. In 1949, when Brother Thea Jones was at our camp meeting in Alabama praying for the sick, God wonderfully healed me of sinus trouble. The Lord healed our baby when the doctor said he would need a blood transfusion if he wasn't better. Then in June, 1950, Brother Angle prayed for me, and I was healed of a dead, numb feeling in the back of my neck, my nerves and a hurting and smothering in my chest. The Lord also healed our little girl of scarlet fever and touched and healed my eyes. Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. I can never praise Him enough for the precious healing power.—Mrs. Horace Trammell.

PINE BLUFF, Ark.—I praise the Lord for healing my baby one night. His arm was swollen very large, from a shot. I prayed and placed the *Evangel* on his body that night, and the very next morning he was better. I want to live where God will not fail to hear me when I call on Him.—Ethel Grisom.

ALMA, Ga.—I praise God for what He means to me. I praise Him for saving, sanctifying, and baptizing me with the Holy Ghost, and for His won-

derful healing power. I praise Him for healing me of a terrible skin trouble, and for healing my husband of asthma.—Mrs. Fannie Crosby.

SEVIERVILLE, Tenn.—I praise the Lord for the way He has healed and kept our family, and I am requesting the prayers of the good people for our boy who fell and is shocked pretty badly.—V. T. Cheers.

ELDORADO, Md.—I thank and praise the Lord for His goodness to us. We thank Him for His healing power. Last summer our daughter was suffering from a nervous condition, and the doctors didn't seem to help her much. We decided to trust God for her healing. She was anointed and prayed for several times and seemed to get relief. One night while God was wonderfully blessing in a service, the power was being manifest and our daughter was shouting and praising God when suddenly her face lifted up and she declared she was healed. During her illness my husband gave his heart to the Lord. He was saved and sanctified and is now seeking the Holy Ghost. Our family of three have joined the Church of God. Pray for us.—Mrs. Emerson Brinsfield.

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CHURCH OF GOD PUBLISHING HOUSE
Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tenn.

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

• Money, an Essential in the Church

By JOHN C. JERNIGAN, STATE OVERSEER OF VIRGINIA

Every person who knows the Bible and understands how the work of the Lord is carried on knows that it takes money for the Church to operate. Some people try to unchristianize a minister of the gospel if he mentions money from the pulpit or writes about it in a religious paper, but no minister could preach the full gospel without making some reference to finance and its importance in the advancement of the cause of righteousness.

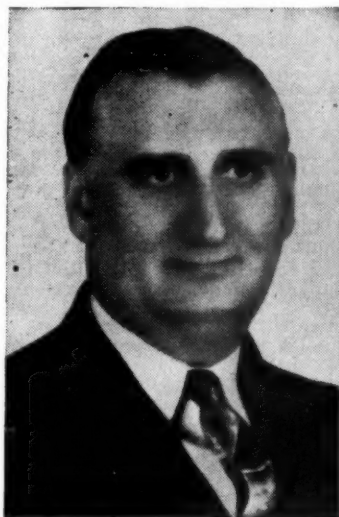
Money is mentioned over and over many times in the Bible. In the days of such religious heroes as Abraham and Jacob, these chief men recognized the importance of money in connection with the progress and development of the Lord's work by paying tithes.

When God gave the law to Israel to govern and direct them in their social, political, and religious life, He included a workable, systematic financial plan, which required each individual to pay both tithes and offerings into the Lord's treasury. As long as Israel kept the victory and worshiped God they practiced this financial system, but when they backslid and went off after other gods, the treasury of the Lord became empty.

During the ministry of Christ on earth, Judas was appointed treasurer for His party, and as they travelled and preached the gospel, Judas paid their expenses from the general treasury. On at least one occasion after Jesus had preached in the Temple, a public offering was taken, and both the rich and poor cast in their money. The Lord Jesus gave His approval of the collection by complimentary remarks about the liberality of a certain poor widow, "Of a truth I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast in more than ye all. For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offering of God, but she of her penury hath cast in all her living that she had."

Immediately after the Day of Pente-

cost, when the Church of God was in its beginning, a treasury was started and the people brought their money and laid it down at the apostles' feet to care for the needy. Paul, the apostle, an esteemed minister in the Church, who gave us thirteen books of the New Testament, often mentioned finances in his sacred writings. He recommended money for such things as the care of the poor and the support of the ministers of the gospel. Paul wrote as if money was very important in carrying on the



Rev. John C. Jernigan

Church in his day. No government could function without a financial system; likewise, the Church must have finances to carry out the commission assigned to her by God our Father.

Since money is an "essential" in promoting the Lord's work on earth, some of our concern in the Church should be about money. We should, however, be careful and remain balanced. Money is one of the essentials, but not the "most" essential, and should not have the greatest emphasis. You cannot always judge

the spirituality of a church by the treasurer's report, for it is possible for people to have money and liberality without spirituality. Under normal conditions, however, in the average functioning of a church, either local or national, spirituality certainly has something to do with the liberality of the people.

The mission of the Church is to preach the gospel unto all the world, which has a broader meaning than standing in the pulpit reading and declaring the Word of God. Someone had to build that pulpit, which required advanced business planning and expenditure of money; and *that money had to be raised by someone.*

The Lord commanded His disciples to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel." This, as a church, we are endeavoring to do. But the ship service and airlines have not invited our missionaries to ride free; neither do the hotels and restaurants furnish lodging and meals without cost. And when the missionary arrives in his field of labor, he does not find friends, church houses, and furnished homes, but he meets strangers and often has to listen to unknown languages, and see the natives worshiping strange and idol gods. Our missionaries cannot meet these conditions without money, and *this money must come through the Church.*

Our people have been very liberal in contributing to the foreign mission work; their offerings have been of free will; they gave because they loved God and wanted to obey His command to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." As a result of the liberality of our people, the Church of God missionaries have gone into many foreign nations. It can truly be said that our mission work has grown by leaps and bounds. Many thousands of souls are being saved from idolatry and our gain in Church membership in the mission fields is very encouraging.

Our expenditure on the foreign field is very great, but every dollar is going for the salvation of the lost. Everyone should do his very best in his mission drives this year. The Missions Board could use some extra money in many of our mission fields. There is no time to let up or feel that we have done our best and that our work is done. Our work will never be done until the day is passed and the night is come; therefore, let us work while it is day, for the night cometh when no man can work.

Scripture Readings: Isa. 9:6; 2 Peter 2:10; Heb. 13:17.

Text: 2 Peter 2:10, "But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and **DESPISE GOVERNMENT**. Presumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities."

Introduction: The word "government" means "rule by properly authorized and recognized persons for the good of all the members of any particular society." We shall consider in this article, first, civil government; second, universal government; third, church government.

Civil Government

The secular world has long since recognized the need for government. They well know that without some form of regulation of the people, for the good of all society, civilization would cease to exist. If we had no civil government, the lawless would rule in a reign of terror. Robbery, murder, rape, and pillage would increase at a terrible rate. Yet there are those in the world who would be glad if government, or rule, were abolished altogether. If it were, they would be the law and would answer to no one. I shudder to think what would happen to our country if this were so. There are also those in the ecclesiastical world who want no church government, or rule over them, and the sad part is that they openly boast of their lawlessness or "freedom," as they call it.

Universal Government

The word "government" also implies "order." Certainly, God is a systematic and orderly being. All about us we see the evidence of His belief in regulation. This universe moves with the precision of a clock. The planets each travel in its particular orbit, and has done so, for thousands of years. Left without regulation, there would have been a terrific collision long ago. The sun rises and sets in a certain pattern. Men can tell years ahead just when the sun will come up on any given day. Men know in advance that there will be spring and summer, fall and winter. Why is this? It is because God believes in government in His universe. If God were opposed to government as some people are, roses would probably bloom in December, and it would snow in August. In other words, all would be disorder and chaos.

Government in the Church

In 1 Cor. 12:28, we are told that "God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, **GOVERNMENTS**, diversities of tongues." We conclude from this scripture that the New Testament church has government in it. God put it there, and no earthly person has a right to do away with it.

God did not leave the execution of His government in the church to chance. He also set certain men over the church to govern it as they were led and anointed by the Holy Ghost;

Government

REV. EARL J. GILBERT, PASTOR, NORTHFORK, WEST VIRGINIA

namely, apostles, prophets, and teachers. In Eph. 4:11 pastors and evangelists are added to the list.

We hear statements like this sometimes, "Bless God, nobody's going to tell me what to do; I'm free." Is such a person in the New Testament church? Let us see what the writer of Hebrews says about it. Chapter 14, verse 17, "OBEY them that have the rule over you, and **SUBMIT** yourselves: for they watch for your souls, as they that must give account." If you are not under government, it is clear that you are not in the New Testament church, and you are not living what the Bible plainly teaches. Certainly, this isn't something to brag about, but rather something of which to be ashamed.

Even among the membership of the churches there are those who give lip service to church government, but who, by their actions, prove that they don't really believe in yielding to authority. Such are the people who believe they have a perfect right to "get their pastor told" if he doesn't do just to suit them. The local church official who rebels against his pastor and tries to get the members of the church to follow him, surely can't believe he is obeying and submitting himself to those that have rule over him. He may loudly proclaim in his testimonies that he loves the church and its government, but this is one of those times when actions speak louder than words.

The apostle Paul, in 1 Tim. 2:11, 12, taught that men should govern the church. "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." Certainly, he did not mean to gag the sisters in the church and never let them testify or praise the Lord. There are too many witnesses spoken of in the Word of God who were women for us to believe that. He must have meant, then, that women were to keep silent in the business matters of the church. Yet, in spite of these scriptures, there are some women in the church who insist upon dictating to the pastor and male members of the church. This always causes confusion in the church. Sisters, be satisfied to enjoy the blessings of God and let the men govern the church as the Word of God teaches.

Some churches, as well as some individuals, remind me of the horse out on the range that has never known the feel of the bit, the bridle, and the saddle. He has been free to roam the range at will, eating where and when he pleases. At last the owner sends one of his cowboys out to bring him in and put him in the corral. After a lively chase, the cowboy finally brings him in. That, however, isn't the end of the matter. The cowboy knows the horse must be

taught to obey and submit to authority if he is ever to be of any value to his master. He puts the bit in his mouth and the bridle over his head. The horse doesn't like this, but he soon finds that the more he jerks his head the more he hurts himself, so he quits that. Then the cowboy adds insult to injury (from the horse's point of view). He puts a saddle on him and climbs aboard. The horse doesn't like this at all; he knows he can't do just as he pleases with all this on his back, so he begins to buck and kick. If he throws the cowboy, someone else tries until he is finally broken, and broken he must be, if he is to be of any value to his master. While he was free he enjoyed himself, but he was doing no worth-while work. The Bible teaches us that we shall be rewarded for our **WORKS**, not for how much or how often we shout or how much we enjoy ourselves.

After the horse becomes used to authority and reconciles himself to the fact that he can't have his own way all the time, he rather enjoys himself in the companionship of his master. He even learns to nibble sugar from his hand.

Jesus said, "Take my **YOKE** upon you and learn of me, and ye shall find rest unto your soul." There is a yoke to wear and a load to bear; it is not God's will for us to run wild and loose. He has provided a sheepfold (church) and shepherds (pastors), and He expects us to get in the church and be taken care of.

Any state overseer will testify that he has churches that don't want to submit to authority. It takes years for some of them to submit to a pastor and begin to work instead of buck and kick. When they do learn their lesson, God invariably blesses them, and their church begins to grow and prosper. Remember this, church member, "The pulling horse doesn't have time to buck and kick, and the bucking and kicking horse doesn't have time to pull."

Peter said in our text that some would **DESPISE GOVERNMENT**. The dictionary says that the word "despise" means "to look down upon with scorn or contempt; disdain." Why would anyone despise government? In 2 Peter 2:1, the apostle warned that false prophets and false teachers would infiltrate the Christian world and that they would privily (secretly) bring in damnable heresies. In verse 2 he stated that many would follow them, and that they would cause the way of truth to be evil spoken of. He is still referring to this class and their punishment in verse 10. One of the heresies these evil men were to bring in was that there was no need for government. They despised government and doubtlessly taught against it, as some are doing to this very day.

Peter gave several reasons for men teaching such heresy. First: They walked in the flesh in the lust of uncleanness. If you would take the time to check thoroughly on these so-called apostles of "freedom," you would find that many of them have been disfellowshipped from reputable church organizations. Some have been guilty of improper relations with the opposite sex and are still living in the uncleanness of their lust. No wonder they want no government. Their lives won't bear scrutiny. Others are hungry for power. They love authority for the power it gives them over others, yet they themselves won't submit to authority. In fact, they want to BE the authority. Still others love money. They want no state and general headquarters because they would have to support them, and that would mean less money for their own coffers. They like to receive tithes, but they don't like the idea of paying tithes themselves.

Second: They were presumptuous. The word "presumptuous" means "bold, confident to excess, arrogant, wilful, rash." It is easy to see that a person of this type would resent authority. He thinks he knows everything there is to know, and he doesn't feel that he needs an overseer to counsel with and advise him. This is the type that boasts of being his own boss.

Third: They are self-willed, which simply means that they want their own way about things; if they don't get it, they are ready to pull out and start something else, where they can have their way. This type of person despises government, or authority, because it means that he must relinquish his will when it is to the good of his society as a whole for him to do so. He is selfish and unwilling to do this.

Men of this caliber try to have a church where they can do as they please and not be responsible to anyone. They beguile unstable souls (verse 14) into believing that theirs is the right way. Poor misguided people pour their money into their coffers and follow them blindly, only to wake up too late and find that they have built an empire for a man who is unworthy of their trust and confidence. They can do nothing about it, for they have no government. Such a church cannot stand long, or go very far, because it is built upon the wrong foundation. There can be no laws to regulate the actions of a society unless there is a

government that has the power to enforce its decrees. Without power to enforce its laws, a government becomes a mere agency for the dissemination of good advice. Therefore, churches that are loosely banded together, without a strong central form of government, lack the cohesion and unity necessary to move forward to a common goal.

Some people seem to be afraid of government. This is either because they do not understand what government really is or their lives are not what they should be. The outlaw is afraid of the law, because he has broken it and knows he must pay the penalty for his crime against society. He is afraid of the officer because he is the representative of the law. I'm not afraid of the law because I'm not a lawbreaker. When I see a policeman I'm not afraid; on the contrary, I'm glad to see him, because I know he will protect honest and good people. If you are clean and straight, you have nothing to fear from church government. Its rules are for your protection. If others want to be lawless, they must answer to God for themselves. You don't have to follow them. You may be asking yourself the question, "Which church has the Biblical form of government?" My answer to this question is, after careful and prayerful consideration, I have found none better than the Church of God, with general headquarters in Cleveland, Tenn. I would not claim absolute perfection for the Church of God government. That is the reason we have a General Ministers' Council every two years, and a General Assembly following that. We are trying to perfect our government. One of the first principles of the Church of God is that we accept the whole Bible rightly divided and the New Testament as our rule for GOVERNMENT and discipline. We, therefore, meet every other year to determine what the will of God is, according to His Word. Our leaders are men of vision, our people a people of courage and convictions. Most important of all, God is with us. The Church of God is growing by leaps and bounds. Let us march together under her banners until Jesus comes. Then we shall be part of the greatest government the universe will ever have known, in the kingdom of God's dear Son. We shall reign (GOVERN) with Him as kings and priests. (Rev. 20:4-6.)

Bible preacher for God and the church, and even in his short time with us has endeared himself to the members and congregation. The Sunday School leaped last Sunday from an average of 30 to 100. At the night service the church could not hold the people. We feel that their coming to us was an answer to prayer.—Miss Hope Jordan.

DURHAM, N. C., DISTRICT NEWS

The first district fellowship meeting met September 11, at the West Durham Church of God. The first Mon-

day night in the month was voted as fellowship night, and the third Monday night as youth night. It was voted that Alpha Adams be reporter for the Echoes and the Evangel. All churches were present, represented by good attendance and their new pastors: Frank Petrucelli, pastor at Hillsboro; Rev. Deans, pastor at Wake Forest; Gardner Berry, pastor at New Light; L. I. Hare, pastor at Raleigh; T. W. Choplin, pastor at Carrboro; T. E. Bowman, pastor at Zebulon; and Roland Verrico, pastor at West Durham and district overseer.

This first fellowship meeting with the new pastors was enjoyed by everyone present, and the Lord did bless in a wonderful way. Rev. Deans brought a message to the churches urging them to put God first and to go forward in a greater way than ever before. He gave advice which might be taken by many congregations today with great advantage, especially in dealing with any new spiritual leader who comes among them. May God richly bless all of our pastors and give them a harvest of souls as their reward.—Alpha Adams, Reporter.

REVIVALS

HOLLAND, Mo.—Sister Gertrude Foster, of Hodge, Ark., preached in the wonderful revival we had here. There were 21 saved, 5 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 12 baptized in water. Sister Foster is 19 years old and this was her first revival. She is very good for work with the young people.—J. N. Patterson.

CLANTON, Ala.—We thank the Lord for the revival we had here at the Oak Grove church. Rev. Earl Miller was our evangelist. The meeting lasted 3½ weeks. There were 35 saved, 16 sanctified, and 7 filled with the Holy Ghost. Also, there were 15 baptized in water and 5 added to the church.—Jesse Mitchell.

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REPORT

HAZLEHURST, Ga.—You have not heard from us in some time, and we come now to tell you how thankful we are to God for sending Brother Hayes Long to pastor our church here in Hazlehurst and be district overseer of the Hazlehurst district. Brother and Sister Long and two daughters arrived here from Donalsonville late Tuesday night, the 5th. Some of the church ladies had gathered at the parsonage with dishes and trays of tempting foods and had the table loaded with a nice supper for them. Brother Long is a real Holy Ghost

Revivals

La GRANGE, N. C.—We recently had a successful revival conducted by Brother Paul Lancaster, of Goldsboro. Eight were saved, 4 sanctified, 2 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 2 added to the church. We are proud of our new Church of God here and are having very good services.—Miss Belle LaNier.

CENTRAL CITY, Ky.—We are very happy to report a great tent revival that ran for 6 weeks. The evangelists were Brother and Sister G. R. Morris, of Tennessee. Everyone seemed to enjoy Brother Morris' old-time Holy Ghost messages, as well as their good music and singing. Sister Morris brought some great messages on divine healing, and several were healed. There were 39 saved, 12 sanctified, and 13 baptized with the Holy Ghost.—Russell Holman.

MT. VALE, Tenn.—We praise God for a revival conducted here by Evangelist Floyd Collier, of North Carolina. The revival lasted 2 weeks, and the power fell each night. There were great numbers in the altar seeking the Lord. One was saved and many more blessed.—Viola Kimbrough.

ISABAN, W. Va.—We began a revival July 29 and closed August 20. There were 9 saved, one filled with the Holy Ghost, 4 baptized in water, and 6 added to the church. Rev. Edgar McCloud, of Flatwood, Ky., did the preaching. He is a wonderful man of God and his children are excellent singers.—E. P. Franklin, Pastor.

TRYON, N. C.—We recently had the greatest revival the Church of God at Tryon has ever witnessed. There were 11 saved, 21 sanctified, 18 filled with the Holy Ghost, 2 healed, and 5 added to the church. Rev. John L. Moss, one of our members, was the evangelist. Many nights there was no preaching as the Holy Ghost took charge. Anyone needing a good evangelist would do well to get Brother Moss. He is just starting out in the ministry but certainly proves a blessing with his preaching.

We praise God for our good pastor and wife, Brother and Sister John Webb. We are in a building program now and covet your prayers. Anyone desiring to contact Brother Moss, his address in Tryon, N. C.

BENTON, Ark.—Benton recently experienced the most wonderful revival in the history of the church. Rev. S. K. Mabry, of Sedalia, Mo., was our evangelist, and the services were conducted under his large tent (90 by 120 feet). Large crowds attended every night. Rev. R. E. Shaw, pastor of New Summit Church of God cooperated wonderfully in bringing his singers and a large number of his members. There were some wonderful healings in Brother Mabry's services, of blindness, deafness, heart trouble, and dumbness. We are praying for a Church

of God in Benton.—F. E. Burrow, Reporter.

CLOSPLINT, Ky.—A revival closed at Homes Mills July 16, with 16 being saved, 8 sanctified, 2 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 11 baptized in water. Brother Henry Cloud did the preaching.—A. B. Gilbert, Box 142.

GARRETT, Ky.—We are happy to report a four weeks' revival which was conducted by Sister Irene Stevens, who preached three weeks, and Brother W. W. Pentecost, who preached one week. They both did some wonderful preaching under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. There were 15 saved, 10 sanctified, and 3 filled with the Holy Ghost. We praise the Lord for His blessings and our faithful pastor and family.—Ellis Sexton, Clerk.

IRON CITY, Ga.—We praise God for a two weeks' revival conducted at the Unity Church of God by Brothers Hubert Moss and George Ingram. The Lord blessed wonderfully. There were 9 saved, 3 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 3 added to the church. One has received the Holy Ghost since the revival closed. We thank God for our good pastor, Rev. Lannie Wiggin. He and his wife are doing a good work here.—Mrs. Woodrow McDaniel.

GREENVILLE, Ky.—We had a six weeks' revival. This town was stirred and our large gospel tent could not seat the crowds. Several nights the Holy Ghost took charge, and the altar would be filled. We had healing services each Friday night, and many were healed. One little eight-year-old boy went to bed and called his dad and told him he saw a light. He began crying to come to the tent meeting. His dad brought him, and he fell in the altar and in a few minutes received the Holy Ghost. Several in near-by towns saw that great light. There were 51 saved, 30 sanctified, 10 baptized with the Holy Ghost, and 9 baptized in water. We give God and our good co-workers the praise for this wonderful revival. Everyone enjoyed the preaching and good music and singing of Rev. and Mrs. E. J. Seigh, of Evansville, Ind., and Rev. and Mrs. Larne James, of Glasgow, Ky. Rev. and Mrs. Russell Holman, our district overseer, of Central City, Ky., were present almost every night. Brother Holman brought some great messages which were food to our soul. The re-

vival came to a close with an all-day meeting and basket dinner and the Lord's Supper and feet washing. Pray for the work at Greenville.—G. R. Morris.

Sunday night, August 13, closed a four weeks' revival for Rev. O. R. Gosnell and evangelistic party, with Rev. Partridge, 1643 Broad Ave., Wilmington, Calif., Faith Pentecostal Tabernacle. A large crowd was in attendance every night, which was unusual for a revival of this length. Each service was blessed by an unusually strong evidence of the presence of the Holy Spirit, conviction resting strongly on saint and sinner alike. As a result, 28 souls found Jesus Christ as their Saviour and 17 were baptized with the Holy Spirit. Many were healed of various afflictions.

One man, a backslider, kept coming back each night until, finally, he was under such deep conviction he couldn't sleep when he went home, nor work on his job. He had to get off by himself after work, in the bathroom, and pray through. His testimony thrilled everyone.

A fine group of young people were saved and regularly attend this church. Two baptismal services were held, one during the revival and one immediately following the closing of the revival.

One feature of the revival was the fine musical talent of the party, both vocal and instrumental, inspired by the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Revival fires are still burning in the church, and all glory is given to the Lord for a glorious outpouring of the Holy Ghost.

While visiting in the East, the Gosnell Evangelistic Party conducted a six-day revival, June 19-25, for Rev. C. M. Taylor at the Church of God, Johnson City, Tennessee. The meeting was very successful, 12 souls being saved and 7 filled with the Holy Ghost baptism.

Anyone wishing to contact Brother Gosnell in regard to a meeting in your church in the vicinity of Los Angeles County, write Rev. O. R. Gosnell, 1703 E. 56th Street, Long Beach 5, California.—Myrtle Guy.

TYLER, Mo.—We had a four weeks' revival at the Kilbourn Church of God. There were 28 saved, several sanctified, 6 filled with the Holy Ghost, 13 added to the church, and 13 baptized in water.—Dollie Pollard, Evangelist.

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... Skylights ...

BECOMING A CHRISTIAN

It was my privilege to be reared in a Christian home. Grace was always pronounced before the meal; the Bible was an everyday book in the home; preachers frequently stopped with us for the night; and the annual revival was the big event of the year.

In these religious contacts, Christian experiences were often shared. Especially was this true during the revival season, when the older people related their conversion experiences. No doubt, they read back into these experiences many of the later revelations which came to them. My idea of how to become a Christian became so distorted that I remained an unbeliever for several years after reaching the age of accountability. These were trying years for me. I was afraid of every flash of lightning, every little tornado, and every type of disease. This fear was brought about by the growing awareness of my sin, with the ever-present realization that I was not prepared to meet God. The more I heard the people tell their experiences with God, the heavier the burden on my heart.

During a revival, my father remarked to a younger brother and me, "I am praying that you boys will trust the Lord during these days." There, I determined to walk the aisle for Jesus that day, even though I died in the attempt. My mind was made up, come what may, feeling or no feeling; I was going to confess Christ before men. I had read that He said if I would do that, He would confess me before the Father. Service time arrived, and we were present. The invitation hymn began, but I had no strong urge to go. I had vowed that I would. I closed my eyes, gritted my teeth, and stepped into the aisle. As the first step was taken, there came a sense of relief; that question is settled. There was no shouting, singing, or clapping of hands, but I had done what God asked me to do, and I was claiming His promise of salvation.

As we drove home that day, I became aware that there was a quiet peace in my heart, that there was no fear of death from storm or disease. My distorted conception of the Christian experience did not let me fully grasp its significance. I now know that I met God in that quiet decision to do His will. After forty years of trying to follow Jesus, I know that He reveals Himself afresh every time we decide to obey His voice. "I had heard of thee by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye seeth thee," may be the experience of every one.

—C. B. Jackson.

Read, every day, something no one else is reading. Think, every day, something no one else is thinking. Do, every day, something no one else would be silly enough to do.

It is bad for the mind to be always part of a unanimity.

—Christopher Morley.

What if God forgot? What if He failed for only one day to remember us? Imagine, if you can, the chaos that would result on earth if God neglected to exercise His controlling and restraining power over nature. Could man any longer depend on the unflinching surety of nature's laws? Could he rely on the workings of gravitation? Could he be sure of the rising of the sun? or of the regular occurrence of the seasons? How would he know that the seed would grow, and that the harvests would yield him food? Tragic, indeed, would be the result if God forgot!

But God will not forget!

Even during the greatest catastrophe this world has ever seen, "God remembered," says the Sacred Record. He "remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark." Genesis 8:1.

Though "the windows of heaven" were opened and "the fountains of the great deep" were broken up, "God remembered." Though lightning cleaved the darkened sky and thunder crashed menacingly about the ark, "God remembered." Though giant rocks were hurled from the depths of the hills, and huge trees were uprooted as grasses, "God remembered." Though the ark "trembled in every fiber as it was beaten by the merciless winds and flung from billow to billow," its occupants were safe, because "God remembered."

And when the tempest had subsided and the waters were assuaged, God placed in the sky the bow of promise to remind man that never again would the earth be destroyed by a flood.

Neither did God forget Abraham and Lot when Sodom and Gomorrah were destroyed. Before fire and brimstone rained from heaven upon that beautiful plain; before the smoke from those magnificent cities rose like "the smoke of a furnace," "God remembered Abraham, and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow, when He overthrew the cities in the which Lot dwelt." Genesis 19:28, 29.

God's memory is not defective. Did He forget Joseph languishing in that Egyptian prison cell when the king's butler, in his human weakness, forgot him? Did He forget Elisha surrounded in the city of Dothan by the armies of heathen Syrians who were determined to do away with him? Did He forget faithful Daniel in the den of lions? Did He forget the apostle Paul on the perilous voyage to Rome?

Human beings may forget; it is only natural. It is even possible for a mother to forget her child; but God's memory in behalf of His people is perfect. Through the prophet Isaiah He declares: "Can a woman forget her suckling child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? yea, they may forget, yet will I not forget thee. Behold, I have graven thee upon the palms of my hands; thy walls are continually before me." Isaiah 49: 15, 16.

So take heart, tempted child of God, in the assurance that your God "shall neither slumber nor sleep," but will always be attentive to "the cry of the humble." Psalms 121:4; 9:12.

He will never be forgetful of your needs, nor remiss in His provision for you. You can always depend on His memory, and though friend or associate may forget and fail, God graciously promises: "Yet will I not forget thee."

—Francis A. Soper.

RELIGIOUS IRREGULARITIES

Dead things are exceedingly regular. A piece of dead wood can be sawed, planed, polished, and varnished; and remain for generations unchanged and unaltered, without growth or improvement. But so long as there is life, there is a constant change, and all change bears the semblance of irregularity.

Whenever worship and religion has sunk into the regularity of a dead formalism, God has sent some irregular agencies to clear the ground as a thunderstorm clears the air. Then the prophets of God were irregular in their labors and testimonies. Thus apostles, reformers, evangelists, and efficient ministers of every age have been noted for their irregularities. No man can fight the devil effectively unless he does it in ways which seem to be more or less irregular. He must make plans which take the enemy by surprise, and he must keep his own counsel.

It is, therefore, our business as Christians to obey the call of God and do what He requires, no matter how irregular our endeavors may seem to be in the estimation of the cold, the careless, and the formal. We are not to be irregular, for irregularities' sake, but if the divine life glows within us; if we labor according to the working which worketh in us mightily; if the Holy Spirit maketh intercession in us with groanings that cannot be uttered; if we know what it is to be led by the Spirit of God, and are quickened by divine energies and made partakers of the powers of the world to come, we may be sure that our lives will be irregular, according to the standard of the sinful, worldly, and formal, though they may be in regular and strict accordance with the mind and will and purpose of the gracious God and heavenly Father.—H. L. Hastings.

THE GARDEN OF PARADISE

The third garden is Paradise. The Bible begins with a garden and ends with a garden, and Gethsemane comes between. Thank God, the day is coming when paradise lost will become paradise restored. When we think of these three gardens of the Bible, my poor little garden fades and disappears.—United Presbyterian.

GOOD ADVICE

Remember, my son, you have to work. Whether you handle a pick or a pen, a wheelbarrow or a set of books, digging ditches or editing a paper, ringing an auction bell or writing funny things, you must work. If you look around, you will see the men who are

most able to live the rest of their days without work are the men who work the hardest. Do not be afraid of killing yourself with overwork. It is beyond your power to do that on the sunny side of thirty. They die sometimes, but it is because they quit at 8 p. m. and don't get home until 2 a. m. It is the interval that kills, my son. The work gives you an appetite for your meals; it lends solidity to your slumbers; it gives you a perfect and grateful appreciation of rest.

There are young men who do not work, but the world is not proud of them. It does not know their names even; it simply speaks of them as "old So-and-so's boys." Nobody likes them; the great busy world does not know that they are there. So find out what you want to be and do, and take off your coat and make a dust in the world. The busier you are, the less harm you will be apt to get into, the sweeter will be your sleep, the brighter and happier your hours off, and the better satisfied will the world be with you.—Robert Bury, dette.

PREACH THE GOSPEL!

A young minister in a college town was embarrassed by the thought of criticism in his cultivated congregation.

He sought counsel from his father, an old and wise minister, saying: "Father, I am hampered in my ministry in the pulpit I am now serving. If I cite anything from geology, there is Prof. A—, teacher of this science, right before me. If I use an illustration of Roman mythology, there is Prof. B—ready to trip me up for my little inaccuracy. If I instance something in English literature that pleases me, I am cowed by the presence of the learned man that teaches that branch. What shall I do?"

The sagacious old man replied: "Do not be discouraged, preach the gospel. They probably know very little of that."—The Broadcaster.

A MANY-SIDED SALVATION

In commenting on the words of Isaiah, "A man shall be as an hiding place from the wind, and a covert from the tempest; as rivers of water in a dry place, as the shadow of a great rock in a weary land," the Rev. F. B. Meyer writes thus beautifully: "No one metaphor can set forth all of Christ's beauty. Are you driven by the wind, 'tossed with tempest, and not comforted?' Hide in Him. Get into Him as the bark, straining and leaking, gets within the shelter of the harbor bar.

"Are you being blinded by the drift of the tempest as it drives the keel of the northern gale or the dust of the southern sirocco into your face? Jesus will be a covert from it. Standing before you with His face to the pitiless blast, He will screen you.

"Are you in a dry place? Cease from the labor of hewing out your own cisterns, which soon get exhausted of the brackish water which they contain, and ask Him to give you a drink of those living springs which are Himself and of which, if a man drink, he shall never thirst again.

"Are you in a weary land? Listen to Him who bids the weary come to Him for rest. He will give rest from the consciousness of unforgiven sin, rest from the inward strife, rest from conflict with men and things around you, rest from chafe and fret against the will of God. Fling yourself down at the feet of the Man who is the High Priest, touched with the feeling of sorrow, acquainted with grief, strong, tender, true, combining in His glorious person every attribute that can make life blessed, and learn how He can be the 'shadow of a great rock.'"—Zion's Watchman.

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There Is Healing Today

By MRS. JANE (ROGERS) TILSON, CLEVELAND, TENN.

"Himself took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses. Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows."

Let's see the word *took*. Webster: to take. To lay or get hold of; grasp or grip; to seize or capture. And *took* is the past tense of *take*. I like to think of this in regard to Jesus already taking our infirmities, and He "*bare* (past tense of *to bear*) our sicknesses." If He has already done this for us, we do not need to have any infirmities or sicknesses; just give them to Him. Also, He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows—past tense in everything, plural in number. It doesn't leave a thing for us except the remedy. Believe and get happy; rejoice in the fact that He did it for us. It's real, as real as the noonday sun. So many pride themselves in the fact that they can go around with a long face and be filled with grief and fear—a kind of sanctimonious feeling, a holier-than-thou feeling—when Jesus carried all that on the cross. His children should rejoice in Him. Lift up your heads; your redemption draweth nigh. Lift up your hearts; your healing has been purchased for you. This is all in the past tense. Jesus has already done it for you. Accept it and rejoice in this fact, and results are bound to follow. Someone has said, and how true it is, "You will never be free until you are free inside." Get the soul in tune with heaven first, then the body is in shape to receive healing from our great Physician.

Faith works through the soul; the soul has power over the body to bring it under subjection to the will of God. A complete yielding of our members to the will of Christ will bring both physical and spiritual benefits, healing and salvation. A person who allows the body to become a glutton will injure it and bring displeasure to the almighty Maker of it. Excess eating and drinking, undue exposure to weather not intended for us will produce infirmities and, consequently, some sicknesses follow.

Mothers wonder why their children contract colds, sore throats, and fevers so easily. If, in many cases, they will remember, it has been due to some negligence on their part in not properly clothing the child. I have seen mothers going down the street warmly clad in fur, and their little ones exposed to the weather nearly to the waist. These things ought not to be. The right kind of food and drink is very essential. Many neglect to drink water a day at a time, then wonder why they have poor digestion when the body is made up of such a large percentage of water. There is a proverb, not one of Solomon's, but it could be, "The Lord helps them who help themselves." This could be well applied in the case of food and drink questions. Do not overeat, and drink plenty of water.

The Lord created man and woman,

a beautiful creation, in His own likeness. The first thing they failed in was the food question. In disobedience to God's words, they ate the forbidden fruit in the garden. The Lord provided a remedy then in the person of His own lovely Son; He, too, in His own likeness. He provided a remedy not only for their souls but also for their bodies, their sicknesses. They were driven out, and ever since men and women have been eating and drinking things they should not. Some folk went out and gathered wild gourds and cooked them and had to call on the man of God. Many a preacher has been called out of bed at the late hours of night to pray for someone who has made a glutton out of himself.

The Lord is very pitiful and of tender mercy, but His mercy will not endure forever for all. When we know a thing, He expects us to do it. "To him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin," James 4:17. We cannot serve Satan with our lives and expect God to heal our bodies. He wants us, body and soul. It is God's will to heal all who come unto Him. Unless Jesus comes, death will come to all sometime. But when it is unto death, He will not give faith for it. Faith is a gift of God; faith worketh

by love. Charles G. Finney said, "Faith is a voluntary act." Faith is an act of will, embracing a fact. The fact that healing is included was taken care of on the cross of Jesus by the blessed Son of God. "Himself took our infirmities and bare our sicknesses"—both past tense. All we have to do is embrace the fact and act accordingly, then rejoice in the finished work of our wonderful Christ.

Many scriptures and multitudes of evidences of the wonderful healings of our day are enough to convince any man of these wonderful truths of the Bible. See James 5:14-16; Matt. 8:17; Isa. 53:1-5; John 10:10; Acts 10:38; Heb. 13:12; Luke 9:56. Sickness as Satan's oppression, Acts 10:38. Jesus the great Physician, Matt. 8:5-13. Establish a point of contact (James 2:20); do something about it; call for prayer and believe God's Word; turn your faith loose; that is, begin to do the things you could not do before. If you are blind, begin looking for some object. If you are deaf, try to hear, keeping your mind on Jesus the Healer. If you are lame, make an effort to walk in Jesus' name. He will not let you be ashamed. He that believeth shall not be ashamed. Trust the Lord; disregard the symptoms; keep your eyes on the remedy, Jesus. When Peter kept his eyes on Jesus, he could walk on the water. When he took his eyes off Jesus, he began to sink. Let's look to Him and live, not only in this life but forever. There is life abundant and everlasting in our lovely Lord.

OH, PRAISE THE LORD

W. HELENA, Ark.—We praise God for healing our baby. He had the infantigo around his mouth. We prayed for him, and God healed him. We can never praise God enough for His goodness. Pray for us.—Rev. and Mrs. F. W. Ellis.

I praise the Lord for His healing power. A few days ago I was suffering from a sore place in my breast. There was a hard lump and it was very painful at times. I placed the *Evangel* on my body in the name of Jesus and asked Him to heal me. My healing came gradually. There is no pain and as far as I can tell there is no lump.—Mrs. Josie M. Jerrel.

WEBB, Miss.—I praise the Lord because I know I am a child of the King. I praise Him for every blessing and for the peace and love I have in my heart. I praise God for His healing power. I praise Him for healing my side. Pray for me and my little crippled girl.—Sister Marvin McCullough.

WHAT CHEER, Iowa—I praise my Redeemer for His healing power. He has healed me many times. I also praise Him for healing my mother.—Mrs. Emma Ewald.

DONALSONVILLE, Ga.—I praise the Lord for His healing power. I praise Him for healing my little boy when he was kicked by a mule. I also praise Him for healing my body and for

healing my three little boys of infantigo and sore eyes. A few weeks ago He healed me of a bad throat and tonsil trouble which was affecting my ears.—Mrs. Morris Odom.

ORANGEBURG, S. C.—I thank and praise the Lord for His healing power. Several months ago my little eight-year-old boy had the croup so bad that it seemed every breath would be his last. I placed the *Evangel* on his chest and prayed and God touched his body. I also praise Him for healing my body.—Idelle Bozard.

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Heartaches and Their Remedy

By EVANGELIST MARGARET L. WATSON, TIMONIUM, MD.

"Why do we sit still? assemble yourselves, and let us enter into the defenced cities, and let us be silent there: for the Lord our God hath put us to silence, and given us water of gall to drink, because we have sinned against the Lord. We looked for peace, but no good came; and for a time of health, and behold trouble! For, behold, I will send serpents, cockatrices, among you, which will not be charmed, and they shall bite you, saith the Lord. When I would comfort myself against sorrow, my heart is faint in me. Behold the voice of the cry of the daughter of my people because of them that dwell in a far country: Is not the Lord in Zion? is not her king in her? Why have they provoked me to anger with their graven images, and with strange vanities? The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved. Is there no balm in Gilead; is there no physician there? why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered?" Jer. 8:14, 15, 17-20, 22.

In these verses of scripture we find the prophet Jeremiah giving God's wonderful message to backslidden Israel, for they had grieved the heart of God, had sinned in departing from the living God and rejecting His Word, and turned to idol worship. God had turned His face from Israel because of their rebellion and turning away after strange gods. They had polluted God's holy Sabbath by their unrighteousness and evil works, and, just as Israel did, so are our people today rejecting the Lord and His mercy, turning away from the true and living way. God allowed great sorrow, trouble, distress, defeat, sickness, and diseases to come upon Israel for their rebellion and turning away from the Lord. They tried to comfort themselves, but they could not be comforted. Their hearts fainted within them; their guilty consciences were constantly an open rebuke to them; sin and iniquity had separated them from God. They called but He did not answer, for sin had hid His face from them. They were serving strange gods and except they repented they knew God would not answer. They called up their strange gods, but they did not answer. They found no help in their idols—they had rejected the Lord our God, and were in a strange country, far away from God. He is not found in strange places.

So many of our people today have left the straight and narrow way and are trying to find God in places where He is not found. But God does not abide where the false prophets and teachers are. They are looking for God in faraway places, but He is near to them who are of a contrite heart. He is still on the throne; He has not taken a vacation in strange lands. The King of Glory is still in Zion reigning. He is near unto them who call upon Him out of a pure heart of repentance at this time. We are living

in a world of much sin and rebellion today. Our people, like Israel, have forsaken the right way, gone into idol worship, rejecting God, giving no heed to the precious Word, denying the blood of the precious, dying Son of God, who gave His life to purchase eternal redemption for us. But woe unto those who turn aside from the Lord our God, for there will come a time when those who reject Him now will need Him. They, too, will call, but He may not answer; it may be too late.

Dear reader, stop and examine yourself. Are you in touch with God? Many today have hardened their hearts, stiffened their necks, and provoked the Lord to anger again. Men and women try to justify themselves in their unrighteousness and idolatry, then wonder why God does not bless their efforts. I say unto you, my dear readers, if you will humble yourselves, return unto the Lord, and repent of your backsliding, God will hear from heaven and will heal your backsliding, and will be a Father unto you.

Yes, many will harden their hearts and say, "We are church members, and we do not need to pray. We go to church and pay our tithes and help the poor." But good works are not enough. Jesus said, "Ye must be born again." Works without faith is dead, and without faith it is impossible to please God. When Israel repented and humbled herself in returning to the living God, then God heard and answered from heaven and blessed her. Likewise, when professing Christians today repent and return unto the Lord, then God will heal their backsliding, and the fire of God will burn again on the altar of their souls. But some have left the true and living way and have gone out to walk in their own way, saying, "This way is too straight for us. We cannot walk in it. We will be independent; we will make our own rules." We have seen them as they started out to walk in their own way. We have seen the fire of God die out of their lives. We have watched them grow cold and indifferent; the joy of the Lord has departed, and our heart aches for them. But they will not hearken unto the voice of God's ministers. As the prophet's great heart ached for Israel, so do our hearts ache for them. Then we see them as great afflictions come—sickness, sorrow, heartaches, great losses. Many wonder why. Then we remember: they are no longer in touch with God. The Spirit of God has departed. Then their sins begin to rise up as a dark cloud, but there is none to help; there is no healing balm in the touch of the backslidden hand. Like Israel crying unto their idol, Baal, so they turn to the world for comfort and help, but find none. Those whom they thought were friends, only mock at them in their sorrows.

Dear readers, I want you to know that there is One who can heal your

afflictions. One who stands ready with outstretched hand waiting for your return. There is still healing balm in the touch of His loving hand. There is comfort in His loving voice as so tenderly He speaks to the repenting soul, saying, "Peace be still; thy sins are forgiven thee. Go in peace." Dear souls, you who have forsaken the right way and have asked to have your names taken from the record, do you not realize that the recording angel of God keeps a record, too? and when you leave the true and living way and go your own way, I fear for your soul, because when you turn from God your name is blotted out of the book of life.

Oh, backsliding church members, won't you return? Come back to the true and living way, straighten up the crooked things in your lives, stop grumbling and finding fault with your church and pastor, go back, repent. Ask your pastor to forgive you for your grumbling and faultfinding, for he is watching for your soul. You wonder why God allows sickness, trouble, losses, distrust, disease, and many other things to come upon us as a professing body of believers. Well, it's because of departing from the truth, and God's chastening hand is upon us. Remember, there is only one remedy. Return unto the Lord our God. Repent, and God will hear and answer from heaven, heal your backsliding and cause the fire of God to burn on the altar of your heart. There is no use looking for healing for your sin-sick soul in the medical world. It's true that medical science has found a relief for physical diseases of the body, and for some they have found a cure, but no man has found, in this world of medical aid, a cure for the sin-sick soul. There is one remedy and only one, and that is the precious blood of Jesus Christ, the Son of the living God. He is the great Physician. There is healing balm in the touch of His gentle nail-scarred hand. He is the Remedy for a sin-sick world, the only Hope of a spotless church.

Return, O backsliding professor; turn to the Lord our God. He will hear from heaven and will give us old-fashioned revivals, and sinners will be saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost. Help us, O Lord, to lift up the blood-stained banner of the cross of Christ and herald the glad tidings to a waiting church that Jesus is coming soon. Let us, as watchmen on the wall, cry aloud and warn the people of this world to flee from the wrath to come. Let the ministers of the Lord weep between the porch and the altar. Kindle again the holy fire of God on the old-fashioned altars, waiting in interceding prayer and fasting. Let us go forth without the camp bearing the reproach of the cross of Christ, making intercession for our people until we see them return unto the Lord and the old-fashioned, heaven-born, Holy Ghost revivals take place in their hearts. Remember, there is only one cure for prevailing conditions today—return unto the Lord our God with repenting; He will hear and answer from heaven and heal the sin-sick soul.

SOME THINGS to Think About

SMOKING PREFERRED TO EDUCATION

Americans spend some four billion dollars a year on tobacco products and supplies, which is as much as they pay all the public schoolteachers in the United States.

BEER CONSUMPTION

In the field of intoxicants, beer led the parade last year. Americans drank 20 per cent more than ever before, reports the New York Times. Altogether some 2,676,817,000 gallons were consumed. That beer is assuming a more conspicuous place in American life is evidenced by the recent unanimous vote of the New York City Board of Education to add a class to its high-school evening courses on how to brew beer.

NEW TRANSLATIONS ARE IN PROGRESS

Some part of the Bible, as of the end of December, 1949, has been published in 1118 languages and dialects, according to a report just issued by Miss Margaret Hill, librarian of the American Bible Society.

Languages in which the whole Bible has been published	190
Languages in which a complete Testament has been published	245 more
Languages in which at least a Gospel or whole book has been published	591 more
Languages in which only selections have been published	92 more
Total languages in which some part of the Bible has been published	1,118

New languages to appear in 1949, according to Miss Hill, were Biete spoken in India; Chin: Anal in Burma; Hula in Papua; Loma, Liberia Piro, Peru; Pitjantjatjara in Australia; Wewjewa in Sumba, Indonesia and Zapotec, spoken by Indians in Mexico.

First complete Bibles appeared in Faroe, of the Faroe Islands, north of Scotland and Shona, one of the languages of Southern Rhodesia.

There are at least 1,000 more languages which, as yet, have nothing of the Word of God. It is because of the untiring efforts of missionary-translators that the Scriptures appear in these new languages at the rate of one new language about every five weeks.

One of the major activities of the American Bible Society is to aid in this translation program. "The Word of God must not only be in the language and the hands of people, but also in their hearts," Dr. Eugene Nida, secretary for Translations of the Bible Society, has said. He it is who tells the story of the little Luba-Lulua lad in central Congo who sat listening with fixed gaze as the missionary read from the Scriptures. As soon as the service was finished, this small boy hastened to the missionary and asked, "Oh, sir, may I have that book, so that I may read it to the people of my village off in the forest, for those words made holes in my heart."

WIDENING CIGARETTE HABIT

"Last year sixty million Americans consumed four hundred billion cigarettes," says The Reader's Digest. "Every year," the article continues, "some 800,000 non-smokers join the smoking ranks. Two out of every three men, two out of every five women, one out of every seven boys of fourteen, smoke cigarettes. The average consumption is nineteen a day."

ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIEST BOYCOTTS BACCALAUREATE

SOMERS, N. Y.—Following a growing pattern of protest across the nation, Monsignor Edward V. Dargin, pastor of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church here, threatened that Roman Catholics would boycott baccalaureate services of local public schools if a Protestant clergyman were permitted to preach a sermon. The Somers school board approved a service which included a hymn and a Scripture reading in which a Protestant clergyman and a rabbi participated, despite protests from Rev. Dargin.

"Our objection to the annual religious baccalaureate service for the Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish students," Msgr. Dargin

wrote the Somers school board, "is that Catholics are forbidden by Canon 1258 of the Code of Canon Law of our Church to actively participate in the religious services of non-Catholics."

Thus the Roman Catholic threat to the American way of life continues to grow.

MORBUS SABBATICUS

Morbus Sabbaticus, or Sunday sickness, is a disease peculiar to church members.

1. The symptoms vary, but it never interferes with the appetite.

2. It never lasts more than twenty-four hours.

3. No physician is ever called.

4. It always proves fatal in the end—to the soul!

5. It is becoming fearfully prevalent, and is destroying thousands every year.

THE ATTACK comes on suddenly every Sunday; no symptoms are felt on Saturday night; the patient sleeps well, wakes feeling swell; eats a hearty breakfast, but about church time the attack comes on and continues until services are over. Then the patient feels easy and eats a hearty dinner. In the afternoon he feels much better; is able to take a walk and read the Sunday papers; eats a hearty supper, but about church time he has another attack and stays at home. He wakes up Monday morning refreshed and able to go to work, and does not have any symptoms of the disease until the following Sunday.

IT IS STILL SIN TO COMMIT ADULTERY

Recent scientific studies made among certain groups revealed that out of ten men only one is a virgin at the time of marriage. Nine of them were fornicators. The same study revealed that half of all men commit adultery after marriage.

The above records are from "certain groups." This is noteworthy and heartening. The lesson to right thinking young people is that it will pay to be selective in the formation of social friendships. There are groups where fornication and adultery are still recognized as sin, and where young people are expected to bring virgin bodies to the marriage altar, and where each is faithful to his or her spouse after marriage.

GERMAN CHURCH GROUP DENOUNCES ABORTION

BERLIN—A declaration denouncing abortion was adopted here by the eastern German conference of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKID), presided over by Dr. Otto Dibelius, Bishop of Berlin, and attended by representatives of all eastern German member churches.

Affirming that whoever takes the life of an unborn child violates the Fifth Commandment, the declaration asserted that the Church "cannot acknowledge an interruption of pregnancy for eugenic, ethical or social reasons."

Even in cases where abortion is medically indicated, the declaration said, "responsible doctors will have to prove their conscience whether an abortion can be justified in view of the fact that God holds the fate of both mother and child in His hands."

In cases of rape, where a woman has conceived against her will, the declaration stated, it should not be forgotten that one crime cannot be remedied by committing a second—the killing of the innocent unborn child.

"Under no circumstances," the declaration said, "must an interruption of pregnancy be effected because of social reasons."

"We, therefore, call upon all who bear responsibility—above all, upon the representatives of the government and the parties—to do everything in their power to assure that mothers may give birth to their children without want. To try solving social injustice by the death of the unborn child means to give up the idea of a necessary social revolution."

"Politeness is like an air-cushion; there may be nothing in it, but it eases our jolts wonderfully."

A DISGRACE

A little boy with his dog, "Colonel," was going past a liquor-saloon; the door of which was wide open. The dog, not knowing any better, went in; but the little boy rushed after him with some good advice: "Come out of here, Colonel. Don't be disgracing the family!"

REPORT 81,497,698 CHURCH MEMBERS

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—A total church membership in the United States of 81,497,698 is reported in the 1950 Southern Baptist Handbook, released here.

Porter Houth, editor of the Handbook, said this was a gain of 1.4 per cent over the figures reported last year.

Forty-eight Protestant groups, with a membership of more than 50,000 each, reported a total of 47,199,675 members, compared with 46,719,184 the previous year. The Roman Catholic Church reported 26,718,343, compared with 26,075,697 the year before. Smaller denominations and the Jewish congregations make up the balance.

The handbook noted that the largest Protestant denomination is The Methodist Church with a membership of 8,792,569. The Southern Baptist Convention comes next, with a membership of 6,761,265.

According to the Southern Baptist tabulation there were 283,150 congregations in 1949 as compared with 279,374 in 1948.

It was also disclosed that 27,944,545 pupils were enrolled in Sunday Schools and parochial schools in 1949, as compared with 27,981,457 in 1948. Protestant Sunday schools showed a loss during the year of 37,003 members.

McARTHUR APPEALS FOR INCREASE IN MISSIONARIES

CHICAGO—"Please send to Japan ten missionaries for each one you have here." Those were the words of General Douglas MacArthur to Dr. T. J. Bach, Chairman of the Board of the Evangelical Alliance Mission, as he viewed a photograph of the nearly eighty missionaries of that mission now serving in Japan.

NEW JERSEY PASSES ILLNESS BILL

TRENTON, N. J.—A measure permitting parents to treat ill children in accordance with religious faith was approved here by the New Jersey Senate. The bill, which passed the Assembly in March, now goes to the governor.

Main purpose of the bill is to exempt such parents from prosecution under the state child welfare act.

A brief supporting the proposal which was submitted to the legislators prior to their adoption of the bill said that Christian Scientists have been practicing spiritual healing for 75 years, that it is an integral part of their faith, and that any encroachment on its free exercise would therefore violate the constitutional right of religious freedom.

The bill is said to be patterned after laws that have been adopted in Pennsylvania and New York.

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THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

THREE ESSENTIALS TO A SUCCESSFUL MINISTRY

(Continued from page 4)

To be successful you must be willing to give. Yes, giving is the first characteristic of love. When God recognized the lost world, the first thought He had was to give something, so He gave His Son. In turn, His Son came to earth and gave Himself; He made a complete sacrifice, holding nothing in reserve. His spirit, soul, and body were in the offering. His mind was restricted to one thought and crowded to its uttermost capacity. His heart was set on one thing and broken to the extent of death, while his body suffered the pangs of hell. Yes, that one aim of Christ Jesus was your redemption, and mine. You ask why He suffered so. We must say; first, because He loved you and me; then He had a definite sacrificial spirit, and I believe the statement is without successful contradiction.

Well, Brother Minister, no man will ever rise above the success of Christ. As a matter of fact, this is not expected of anyone. Neither will the convert rise above the minister. If the minister lives a spiritual life, his congregation has a chance to follow his example. If the minister gives his time, talent and money, his converts and members will do likewise. We are commanded, in Romans 12:1, to present our bodies a living sacrifice unto God. I believe Paul was inspired by the Spirit of Christ when he wrote this letter to the Romans, and he was writing the very essence of his heart and the substance of the life he was living, as he states in Philippians 3:7-9. "But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ."

Yes, and I count all things but loss for Christ, or for the excellency and knowledge of Christ, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as nothing that I might win Christ and be found in Him, not having mine own righteousness but that which is through faith in Christ.

Jesus said in Luke 14:33, that if we would be His disciples we would have to forsake all. And again He said ourselves, also.

Many times when we look at our ministry in the light of the accomplishments of other great men of the Bible, we are made to tremble with the weight and feeling of deficiency. One of the greatest examples on the pages of history is that displayed by Abraham when he insisted that Lot take his choice and he would accept what was left. Of course, years later he was seen returning from the slaughter of the confederate kings with Lot, whom he had rescued from prison or captivity, and upon meeting the King of Salem he gave him tithes of all. Paying tithes is not to be looked upon as a sacrifice, but only those who have a sacrificial SPIRIT will do it. No one needs any special spirit of prophecy to predict the outcome of a sacrificial life. Sometimes we may think we are giving too much, or more than necessary, but we can never outgive God; whatever the contribution may be, if it's for the cause of

Christ, we have nothing to lose.

A definite consciousness of God, a definite forward-looking faith, and a definite sacrificial spirit are the characteristics of a successful minister, regardless of who he is or where he is from. May God help us ministers to put our all on the altar, forget self, and think of others until we are sure God is satisfied with our efforts.

EDITORIALS

(Continued from page 3)

NO TIME TO TREAT MEN WRONG

WALTER E. ISENHOUR

*There is a time to work and play,
A time to eat and sleep;
A time to study and pray,
A time to laugh and weep;
A time for fellowship that's sweet,
A time for sacred song;
But never is there time to treat
A human being wrong.*

*There is a time to lift men up
And help them on life's road;
A time to drain their bitter cup
And share their heavy load;
A time to bless them with our grace
And boost them all along;
But never is there time and place
To treat our fellows wrong.*

*There is a time to help men seek
The God who saves the soul;
A time to show them that the meek
Shall reach life's highest goal;
A time to help them turn aside
And leave the wicked throng;
But never does our God provide
A time to treat men wrong.*

All the saints have been men and women of prayer. Read the records of their lives, and their prayer-life stands out as the most wonderful thing of all, and the saintlier they were, the more they prayed, and the more real was their sense of sin and need. Who are we, then, to doubt our need of prayer? If our Lord prayed, and the great saints prayed, how do we ever expect to attain to holiness of life and beauty of character, and Christlikeness of conduct, unless we delight to seek the face of God in heart-searching, heaven-searching prayer?—A. Lindsay Glegg.



OBITUARIES

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Ps. 116:15.

MCCAIN

Brother Robert Brooks McCain, commonly known as Uncle Bob, went to be with Jesus August 16, at the age of 68. He was one of the charter members of the Church of God at Epps, La., and had been a faithful member for 24 years. He trusted God completely to the end. His faithfulness to the church and helpful words of encouragement to the young people won many friends who mourn his passing. He leaves one son, 2 daughters, 4 grandchildren, and a host of friends and relatives. His funeral was conducted

ed by his pastor, Rev. Dovie Coats. He will be missed, though we do not mourn as those who have no hope.—Alice Varner, Epps, La.

VINSON

James David Vinson, age 87 years, departed this life August 11, to reap his reward in heaven. He was a faithful member of the Scaly, N. C., Church of God and was a regular attendant as long as his health permitted. He was a shut-in for several months, but as we visited with him we could see the joy of the Lord was still with him. He shouted the victory to the end. He leaves to mourn his passing his wife, 14 children, a number of grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and a host of friends. His funeral was conducted at the Church of God in Scaly, N. C., by his pastor, assisted by Rev. Frank Miller.—His pastor, Vernon Wood.

CAGLE

Brother Jim Cagle passed on to his reward Sept. 21, 1950, at the age of 76. He was a member of the Goodwill Church of God near Marks, Miss., and a most devout Christian. He trusted God to the end. His funeral was conducted at Goodwill by Rev. M. L. Muse, his former pastor. He leaves his wife, 9 children, and 8 grandchildren.—Maud Medlin.

BOZEMAN

On September 11, the death angel came into the home of W. E. Bozeman and claimed his darling wife, Lena Mae, at the age of 43 years. She was a kind and loving wife and mother. She was an active member of the Baptist Church for a number of years. She then came into the Church of God at Loxley, Ala., and was loved by all that knew her. She leaves to mourn her passing her husband, 2 sons, and a host of friends and relatives. Her funeral was conducted by her pastor, Rev. Albert Reed. We look forward to being reunited with her in the great resurrection.—Mrs. Ethel Boone, Reporter.

RITTENHOUSE

Miss Frankie Rittenhouse, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Rittenhouse, departed this life on August 10, at the age of 19 years. Frankie was reared in the Church of God and in her five-day illness prior to death she accepted the Lord and left a beautiful testimony. We are looking forward to meeting her again in a world where there will be no dying. She leaves to mourn her death 5 sisters, one brother, and her father and mother.—Mrs. L. T. Fickling.

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